

General Assembly

Substitute Bill No. 390

February Session, 2022



AN ACT CONCERNING GOLF CARTS, BLOOD TRANSPORT VEHICLES, WRONG-WAY SIGNS, THE USE OF TOWN AID ROAD GRANTS AND A MICROTRANSIT PILOT PROGRAM.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

- 1 Section 1. Subdivision (59) of section 14-1 of the 2022 supplement to
- 2 the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
- 3 thereof (*Effective July 1, 2022*):
- 4 (59) "Motor vehicle" means any vehicle propelled or drawn by any
- 5 nonmuscular power, except aircraft, motor boats, road rollers, baggage
- 6 trucks used about railroad stations or other mass transit facilities,
- 7 electric battery-operated wheel chairs when operated by persons with
- 8 physical disabilities at speeds not exceeding fifteen miles per hour, golf
- 9 carts operated on highways solely for the purpose of crossing from one
- part of the golf course to another <u>or operated on state highways, located</u>
- 11 <u>in municipalities where the traffic authority authorized the operation of</u>
- 12 golf carts pursuant to section 14-300g, solely for the purpose of crossing
- 13 <u>such state highways</u>, golf-cart-type vehicles operated on roads or
- 14 highways on the grounds of state institutions by state employees,
- agricultural tractors, farm implements, such vehicles as run only on rails or tracks, self-propelled snow plows, snow blowers and lawn mowers,
- when used for the purposes for which they were designed and operated

- at speeds not exceeding four miles per hour, whether or not the operator rides on or walks behind such equipment, motor-driven cycles, as defined in section 14-286, special mobile equipment, as defined in section 14-165, mini-motorcycles, as defined in section 14-289j, electric bicycles, electric foot scooters and any other vehicle not suitable for operation on a highway;
 - Sec. 2. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2022*) (a) As used in this section, (1) "high occupancy vehicle lane" means a traffic lane reserved for the exclusive use of vehicles with an operator and one or more passengers, (2) "blood transport vehicle" means a motor vehicle owned by a nonprofit general blood banking operation or nonprofit blood collection facility licensed by the state that transports human blood and blood products, and (3) "blood products" means any substance derived from human blood, including, but not limited to, plasma, platelets and red or white blood cells.
 - (b) The Office of the State Traffic Administration may designate a lane on any multiple lane limited access highway as a high occupancy vehicle lane and erect or cause to be erected signs identifying any such high occupancy vehicle lane. The office shall permit the operator of a blood transport vehicle to use any such high occupancy vehicle lane, regardless of the number of passengers in such vehicle, provided the operator (1) is transporting human blood and blood products between a collection point and a hospital or storage center; (2) displays a removable decal or sign indicating such vehicle is transporting human blood and blood products between a collection point and a hospital or storage center on each side of such vehicle and at the rear of such vehicle; and (3) displays the logo or emblem of the nonprofit general blood banking operation or nonprofit blood collection facility, as the case may be, on each side of such vehicle.
 - (c) The Office of the State Traffic Administration may adopt regulations, in accordance with the provisions of chapter 54 of the general statutes, to implement the provisions of this section.

- Sec. 3. (*Effective from passage*) Not later than January 1, 2024, the Commissioner of Transportation shall complete the installation of wrong-way signs, as described in subdivision (13) of subsection (a) of section 40 of public act 20-1, on exit ramps from interstate highways that are prone to motor vehicle accidents.
- Sec. 4. Section 13a-175a of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2022*):
- 57 (a) [For] Except as provided in subsection (b) of this section, for each 58 fiscal year there shall be allocated twelve million five hundred thousand 59 dollars out of the funds appropriated to the Department of 60 Transportation, or from any other source, not otherwise prohibited by 61 law, to be used by the towns for construction, reconstruction, 62 improvement or maintenance of highways, sections of highways, bridges or structures incidental to highways and bridges or the 63 64 improvement thereof, including the plowing of snow, the sanding of icy 65 pavements, the trimming and removal of trees, the installation, 66 replacement and maintenance of traffic signs, signals and markings, 67 [and] for traffic control and vehicular safety programs, traffic and 68 parking planning and administration, and other purposes and 69 programs related to highways, traffic and parking, [and] for the 70 purposes of providing and operating essential public transportation 71 services and related facilities, and for the purposes of engineering 72 studies and planning services related to efforts regarding flood 73 mitigation and municipal stormwater planning.
 - (b) [Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (a) of this section, the] <u>The</u> Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management, in the secretary's discretion, may approve the use of funds by a town for purposes other than those enumerated in [said] subsection (a) <u>of this</u> section.
 - Sec. 5. (*Effective from passage*) (a) As used in this section, "microtransit" means transportation by a multipassenger vehicle that uses a digital network or software application service to offer fixed or dynamically

74

75

76

77

78

79

80

81

- allocated routes and schedules in response to individual or aggregate consumer demand.
 - (b) The Commissioner of Transportation shall establish a pilot program to test microtransit services in the state, including rural areas not currently served by public transportation. The commissioner may enter into agreements with third parties to provide such services.
 - (c) Not later than January 1, 2025, the commissioner shall submit a report on the implementation of the pilot program and recommendations concerning the future deployment of microtransit services in the state to the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to transportation, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following		
sections:		
Section 1	July 1, 2022	14-1(59)
Sec. 2	October 1, 2022	New section
Sec. 3	from passage	New section
Sec. 4	July 1, 2022	13a-175a
Sec. 5	from passage	New section

Statement of Legislative Commissioners:

Section 2(a)(3) was rewritten for accuracy and in Section 5(c), "of microtransit services in the state" was added for clarity.

TRA Joint Favorable Subst.

82

83

84

85

86

87

88

89

90

91

92

93